

Application No. 10/609,162
Response to Final Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) A plate-like protective film
comprising:

a plate-like material main body which protects a plate-like
material structure;

5 projections which are arranged continuously in predetermined
areas of the plate-like material main body and which are formed
by respective parts of the plate-like material main body to
extend from a base portion of the plate-like material main body;

wherein each of the projections comprises a crown portion
10 having a surface that is a plane that is substantially parallel
with a main surface of the protected plate-like material
structure, and a side wall portion extending from the crown
portion; and

wherein an amount by which the projection provided at one
15 widthwise end of the plate-like protective film is shifted with
respect to a corresponding projection at another widthwise end is
not smaller than 1/4 pitch and is not larger than 3/4 pitch.

Claims 3 and 4 (Canceled).

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5. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of projections project in at least two different directions from the base portion of the plate-like material main body.

6. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of projections comprise first projections projecting from one surface of the plate-like material main body, and second projections projecting from another surface of the plate-like material main body, and the first and second projections are arranged alternately along a direction in which the projections are arranged.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A plate-like protective film according to claim 2, comprising:

a plate-like material main body which protects a plate-like material structure;

5 projections which are arranged continuously in predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body and which are formed by respective parts of the plate-like material main body to extend from a base portion of the plate-like material main body;

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10 wherein each of the projections comprises a crown portion
 having a surface that is a plane that is substantially parallel
 with a main surface of the protected plate-like material
 structure, and a side wall portion extending from the crown
 portion; and

15 wherein the plurality of crown portions have different
 widths measured along a direction of arrangement of the
 projections.

Claim 9-12 (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A plate-like protective film
~~according to claim 2, comprising:~~

a plate-like material main body which protects a plate-like
 material structure;

5 projections which are arranged continuously in predetermined
 areas of the plate-like material main body and which are formed
 by respective parts of the plate-like material main body to
 extend from a base portion of the plate-like material main body;

10 wherein each of the projections comprises a crown portion
 having a surface that is a plane that is substantially parallel
 with a main surface of the protected plate-like material
 structure, and a side wall portion extending from the crown
 portion; and

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15 wherein respective gap portions are formed between the plurality of projections, and the respective gap portions have at least two different widths measured along a direction of arrangement of the projections.

14. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim '2, wherein the projections are substantially trapezoidal as viewed from an end surface side of the plate-like material main body.

15. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the projections are substantially U-shaped as viewed from one surface side of the plate-like material main body.

16. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the projections are substantially semicircular as viewed from one surface side of the plate-like material main body.

17. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the protected plate-like material structure comprises interconnect patterns, and the predetermined

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areas of the plate-like material main body are not superimposed on the interconnect patterns.

18. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the protected plate-like material structure comprises interconnect patterns and electronic components, and the predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body are not superimposed on the interconnect patterns and electronic components.

19. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 18, wherein the electronic components comprise semiconductor chips.

20. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the plate-like material main body is long enough to protect the protected plate-like material structure.

21. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 20, wherein the protected plate-like material structure comprises sprocket holes, and the predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body are in proximity to the sprocket holes.

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22. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 20, wherein the protected plate-like material structure comprises sprocket holes at opposite widthwise ends thereof, and the predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body are the opposite widthwise ends of the plate-like material main body.

23. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 2, wherein the plate-like material main body has a sheet form so as to protect the protected plate-like material structure, which also has a sheet form.

24. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body are two opposite side areas of the plate-like material main body.

25. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined areas of the plate-like material main body are at least four side areas of the plate-like material main body.

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26. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 13, wherein conductive layers are provided at least in areas of the plate-like material main body other than opposite widthwise ends thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The plate-like protective film according to claim 26, wherein the conductive layers are provided on respective surfaces of the plate-like material main body.